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15 October 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 15 October 1968

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Godfrey noted that the excluded zone in southern East Germany will be extended in duration for another twenty-six days.

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D/ONE drew attention to serious difficulties which have been encountered in coordinating the SNIE on Southeast Asia after the termination of the war in Vietnam.

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Carver reported that President Thieu is apparently spreading the word that the Americans put him up to last week's coup alert.

Maury advised that Senator Milton Young called from the campaign trail yesterday to inquire how many NVA and VC are in South Vietnam. He was given the 150,000 figure rather than the 250,000 figure which he vaguely recalled from an earlier briefing.

Maury briefed on Senator Stennis' forthcoming trip to Europe.

Maury indicated that Senator Cooper has requested a briefing based on the Secret version of SNIE 11-17 prior to his departure for the North Atlantic Assembly.

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Maury reported that Senator Russell has requested that William Darden be provided with briefing information on the Moskva.

25X1 Parrott stimulated a discussion on the problem of information handling systems in the Agency and in the intelligence community by referring to [] attendance at the NSA Workshop on Networks of Computers, where it was evident that everyone is in a thicket concerning computer application. Executive Director noted that CIA's comments on the community information handling systems paper will express reservations and concern about the knowledge and state of the art in the community. It was pointed out that PFIAB, at the titillation of Dr. Baker, has consistently and compulsively demanded rapid progress on the mechanization of information handling in the intelligence community. The Director advised that we go along with the USIB exercise on planning for community information handling systems and that we forthwith come to grips with the information handling problem with a view toward establishing an Agency position and ultimately confronting those in PFIAB and elsewhere who are advocating what appears to be pell-mell computerization.

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DDCI recalled that last week USIB discussed how to classify and disseminate certain information on strategic weapons systems. With the Director's concurrence DDCI indicated he will propose at this week's USIB meeting that the Black Book is the appropriate vehicle for initial dissemination of strategic weapons information and that such dissemination should be followed by an interregnum of forty-eight hours before dissemination in other publications.

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*The Director urged the DD/S&T to provide [redacted] Panel members with ample lead time on the dates for Panel meetings and suggested that the DD/S&T get personal letters out to members this week with a firm set of dates for the February meeting.

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[redacted]
L. K. White

*Extracted and sent to action officer

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